

Prk
8-25-69

Hoffa Loses Bid to Study Bugging File

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Aug 25 (UPI)—Attorneys for Teamsters president James R. Hoffa lost their bid today to examine a secret record of government eavesdropping on the Teamsters Union.

Federal Court Judge Frank Wilson ruled that documents contained in the so-called "June file" had no bearing on Hoffa's motion for a new trial on jury tampering charges.

The "June file," kept on record at FBI headquarters in Washington, is a top-secret record of all Justice Department eavesdropping in criminal cases.

Wilson also refused to turn over to Hoffa's lawyers most of 1,317 other documents dealing with government eavesdropping on the Teamsters Union in the Detroit area between 1961 and 1965.

After studying the documents over the weekend, Wilson held there was nothing pertaining to the Hoffa case in the "June file" that had not been brought out before.

The judge did insert into the court record documents from the Detroit investigation relating to routine conversations involving Larry Campbell, one of Hoffa's co-defend-

ants.

Following the judge's ruling, Hoffa's lawyers requested that the FBI turn over to the defense its full files on Hoffa and his three co-defendants.

Attorney Harvey Silets of Chicago said the files might reveal evidence that the government received tips on the case through illegal surveillance.

Wilson took the request under advisement. Indications were that if the files were ordered released, they would first be submitted to the judge who would then determine if they should be passed along to the defense.

Hoffa, who contends his constitutional rights were violated by government "bugging" has served 30 months of an eight-year sentence in the federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pa.

There was speculation as the hearing entered its second week that Hoffa might testify in his own behalf.

Hoffa's conviction grew out of incidents surrounding the trial of the so-called "Test Fleet" case at Nashville. That trial, in which Hoffa was accused of sharing in a \$1 million payoff to insure labor peace for a Detroit trucking firm, ended in a mistrial.

Three other defendants convicted in the jury tampering case—Ewing King, Campbell and Thomas Ewing Parks—are also seeking to overturn their convictions.